



Government of the
Republic of Macedonia



DECADE OF ROMA INCLUSION 2005–2015

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

“EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ROMA”

14–15 MAY 2012, SKOPJE

AGENDA

13 MAY 2012 – SUNDAY

Arrival of participants

14 MAY 2012 – MONDAY

09:15 – 09:45 **Registration**

OPENING SESSION

Chair: Ms. Mabera Kamberi, Head of Department for Coordination and Technical Assistance to the Minister, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia

09:45 – 10:00 **Opening remarks**

- Mr. Nezet Mustafa, Minister without Portfolio, National Coordinator of the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005–2015, Republic of Macedonia
- Mr. Spiro Ristovski, Minister of Labour and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia
- Mr. Safet Neziri, Deputy Minister of Education and Science, Republic of Macedonia

10:00 – 10:30 **Keynote speeches**

- H.E. Ambassador Ralf Breth, Head of the OSCE Mission to Skopje
- Mr. Sheldon Yett, UNICEF Country Representative
- Mr. Eben Friedman, Advisor, Roma Education Fund

10:30 – 10:50 **Press conference**

Some of the activities of the Macedonian Decade Presidency are funded by the European Union

SESSION I: EARLY CHILDHOOD INCLUSION PRACTICES AS A TOOL FOR BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN ROMA CHILDREN AND OTHER STUDENTS

Aim: *To present the findings from recent regional research on the inclusion of Roma children in early childhood development services in response to the recognized importance of enabling young Roma children to access and benefit from appropriate, inclusive and effective health, education and welfare services during the most formative period of their lives. The research systematically presents the situation of young Roma children and provides recommendations for more comprehensive and inclusive early childhood services.*

(Presentation of the findings and recommendations from the (RECI) study; presentation of the findings and recommendations from the implementation of the “A Good Start” programme in several countries; presentation of the World Bank program, designed to diagnose ECD systems, policies and programs across countries)

Chair: Ms. Nora Sabani, Education Specialist, UNICEF

10:40 – 11:10 Mr. John Bennett, RECI Principal Author - A joint initiative of the Open Society Foundations, Roma Education Fund and UNICEF

11:10 – 11:20 Ms. Nadica Janeva, RECI National Author – Recommendations and follow-up in Macedonia

11:20 – 11:40 Mr. Marius Tabă, Roma Education Fund – Presentation of the “A Good Start” programme

11:40 – 12:00 Ms. Bojana Naceva, World Bank – Early Childhood Development Policies around the World (SABER)

12:00 – 12:20 Mr. Adrian Marsh, Open Society Foundation London, ECP strategy and information

12:20 – 12:40 Q&A

12:40 – 12:50 Coffee break

SESSION II: MONITORING AND EVALUATION FOR RESULTS – CORNERSTONE OF THE CONTINUING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION SERVICES

Aim: *Presentation of the initiatives for monitoring and evaluation for results and projects that provide tools for monitoring the implementation and evaluation of results*

Chair: Mr. Eben Friedman, Advisor, Roma Education Fund

12:50 – 13:15 Mr. Andrej Salner, Slovak Governance Institute – Monitoring and impact evaluation in general and regarding the REF “A Good Start” programme

13:15 – 13:30 Mr. Zoran Stojanov, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, UNICEF – Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey – Early Childhood Development Data

13:30 – 13:45 Q&A

13:45 – 15:00 Lunch

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SESSION III: SYSTEMATIC APPROACH TO INCLUSION OF ROMA CHILDREN IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

Aim: *To present and exchange information between countries on progress achieved in inclusion of Roma children in early childhood development and pre-school education through systemic approach and best practices*

(by the Governments of the Decade countries)

Chair: Mr. Jashe Sefer, Cabinet of the Minister without Portfolio, Republic of Macedonia

15:00 – 15:15 Ms. Angelina Skarep, Education Adviser - Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Serbia

15:15 – 15:30 Mr. Esad Deari, State Advisor, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia

15:30 – 15:45 Ms. Zlata Nikolic, Director, Public Municipal Pre-School Institution R.J.Korcagin of the Municipality of Center, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia

15:45 – 16:00 Mr. Gabor Daroczi, ROMAVERSITAS, Hungary

16:00 – 16:15 Q&A

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee break

SESSION IV: SYSTEMATIC GOVERNMENT POLICIES FOR INCLUSION OF ROMA IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Aim: *To exchange experiences and information regarding systematic implementation of national policies for primary and secondary education for Roma resulting in successful practices on local level*

(by the Governments of the Decade countries)

Chair: Mr. George Nikolov, State Advisor, Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Macedonia

16:30 – 16:45 Mr. Redzep Ali Cupi, Director, Directorate for Promotion and Development of the Languages in the Education for the Ethnic Minorities, Republic of Macedonia

16:45 – 17:00 Ms. Sonja Tošić-Grlač, Medjmurje County - Department for Education, Culture and Sport, Republic of Croatia

17:00 – 17:15 Ms. Elena Vitanova, Ministry of Education, Republic of Bulgaria

17:15 – 17:30 Mr. Deyan Kolev - AMALIPE, Center for Interethnic Dialogue and Tolerance, Republic of Bulgaria

17:30 – 17:45 Q&A

19:30 Dinner

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15 MAY 2012 – TUESDAY

SESSION V: GOOD PRACTICES REGARDING SUCCESSFUL INITIATIVES FOR INCLUSION OF ROMA CHILDREN IN EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

Aim: *To present successful practices for inclusion of Roma children in early childhood development and pre-school education with a potential to impact the system (by NGOs from the Decade countries)*

Chair: Mr. Neshat Azemovski, SUMNAL – Association for development of the Roma community in Macedonia

09:00 – 09:15 Mr. Nikolić Stevan, League for Decade of Roma, Educational Centre of Roma, Republic of Serbia

09:15 – 09:30 Mr. Fabián-Daniel Sánchez-García, ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL PRESENCIA GITANA, Spain

09:30 – 09:45 Ms. Fatma Bajram Azemovska, SUMNAL – Association for development of the Roma community in Macedonia

09:45 – 10:00 Ms. Aida Mustafovska, AMBRELA - Centre for Integration, Republic of Macedonia

10:00 – 10:15 Q&A

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee break

SESSION VI: NGO APPROACHES TO INCLUSION OF ROMA IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Aim: *To exchange experiences and information for implementation of best practices and obstacles to successful inclusion of Roma students in primary and secondary education (by NGOs from the Decade countries)*

Chair: Mr. Muedin Kahveci, State Secretary, Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, Republic of Macedonia

10:30 – 10:45 Ms. Ramiza Memedi, NGO Better Future, Republic of Croatia

10:45 – 11:00 Mr. Arben Bastri, Roma Vision Center, Republic of Albania

11:00 – 11:15 Ms. Slavica Kjurcinska, National Roma Centrum, Republic of Macedonia

11:15 – 11:30 Q&A

11:30 – 12:00 Conclusions and Closing Remarks

12: 15 Lunch